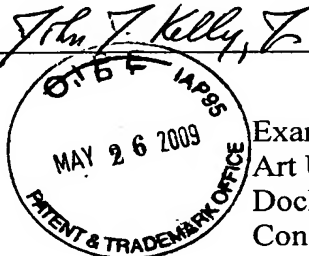


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 20, 2009.

John J. Kelly, Jr. Reg. No.: 29,182



Examiner : Tima M. McGuthry Banks
Art Unit : 1793
Docket No.: 52433/789
Conf. No. : 8919

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : H. ICHIKAWA et al.
Serial No. : 10/527,809
Filed : November 9, 2005
For : METHOD OF REDUCTION TREATMENT OF METAL OXIDES
OR STEELMAKING WASTE AND METHOD OF
CONCENTRATING AND RECOVERING ZINC AND/OR LEAD

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT IN RCE

SIR:

Reconsideration of the above-identified patent application, as amended, is respectfully requested. The present amendment is being filed in a Request For Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified patent application.

The present amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed November 24, 2008 and the Advisory Action mailed April 03, 2009.

A petition for an extension of time accompanies this Request For Continued Examination (RCE) and the present amendment.